



COLORADO CROP PROGRESS

United States Department of Agriculture  
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE  
COLORADO FIELD OFFICE  
P.O. BOX 150969 · Lakewood, CO 80215-9966



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
September 24, 2018

Contact: Bill Meyer  
(800) 392-3202

CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION  
WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 23, 2018

**AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY:** Hot and dry weather was widespread with reported isolated precipitation throughout the state last week, according to the Mountain Region Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. In northeastern counties, winter wheat planting progressed well despite dry soil conditions. Livestock were reportedly in good condition, with producers marketing calves to alleviate using forage. Northeastern and east central counties noted winter wheat being seeded into dry topsoil. In southwestern counties, hot and dry temperatures provided no relief from exceptional drought conditions, and very little winter wheat has been planted. In the San Luis Valley, potato harvest picked up last week as well as producers starting the third cutting of alfalfa. Stored feed supplies were rated 7 percent very short, 18 percent short, 71 percent adequate, and 4 percent surplus. Sheep death loss was 70 percent average and 30 percent light. Cattle death loss was 75 percent average and 25 percent light.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS				
Commodity	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Alfalfa hay				
3 <sup>rd</sup> cutting harvested .....	90	84	83	83
4 <sup>th</sup> cutting harvested .....	32	23	20	24
Corn				
Dented.....	92	86	84	92
Mature.....	39	22	29	35
Harvested for grain .....	1	--	4	4
Harvested for silage .....	88	77	73	73
Dry edible beans				
Cut .....	87	81	64	56
Harvested .....	56	48	33	30
Onions				
Harvested .....	85	77	64	55
Potatoes inside San Luis Valley				
Harvested .....	25	20	23	28
Potatoes outside San Luis Valley				
Harvested .....	65	58	43	74
Sorghum				
Turning color .....	95	88	89	85
Mature.....	27	13	19	28
Harvested .....	1	--	--	2
Spring wheat				
Harvested .....	91	89	84	87
Sugarbeets				
Harvested .....	6	4	4	9
Winter wheat				
Planted .....	47	24	37	45
Emerged.....	21	11	12	15

NA – not available  
(--) – zero

DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION				
	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
Days suitable for fieldwork.....	6.6	6.9	5.6	6.1
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	14	12	3	7
Short.....	34	35	23	30
Adequate .....	51	52	72	60
Surplus.....	1	1	2	3
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	15	13	3	12
Short.....	27	29	28	31
Adequate .....	57	57	69	56
Surplus.....	1	1	--	1

NA – not available  
(--) – zero

CROP, LIVESTOCK, PASTURE AND RANGE CONDITION				
Commodity	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Alfalfa hay				
Very poor .....	9	8	3	4
Poor.....	19	15	14	10
Fair.....	26	25	26	25
Good .....	38	45	53	50
Excellent .....	8	7	4	11
Corn				
Very poor .....	2	2	1	3
Poor.....	10	5	9	6
Fair.....	18	14	29	27
Good .....	62	70	48	50
Excellent .....	8	9	13	14
Dry edible beans				
Very poor .....	16	11	5	5
Poor.....	16	19	9	5
Fair.....	11	13	27	33
Good .....	55	53	55	50
Excellent .....	2	4	4	7
Pasture and range				
Very poor .....	28	26	1	6
Poor.....	23	21	13	16
Fair.....	23	22	25	28
Good .....	24	29	48	42
Excellent .....	2	2	13	8
Potatoes inside San Luis Valley				
Very poor .....	--	--	--	NA
Poor.....	5	4	14	NA
Fair.....	15	13	19	NA
Good .....	50	59	51	NA
Excellent .....	30	24	16	NA
Sorghum				
Very poor .....	3	4	2	5
Poor.....	8	6	6	12
Fair.....	28	25	16	32
Good .....	57	62	65	47
Excellent .....	4	3	11	4
Sugarbeets				
Very poor .....	3	2	1	--
Poor.....	6	4	3	2
Fair.....	22	20	8	15
Good .....	49	52	70	67
Excellent .....	20	22	18	16
Sunflowers				
Very poor .....	1	1	1	5
Poor.....	3	1	4	7
Fair.....	28	24	19	30
Good .....	64	69	62	48
Excellent .....	4	5	14	10
Livestock				
Very poor .....	2	2	--	--
Poor.....	2	2	1	2
Fair.....	19	14	12	16
Good .....	68	74	81	71
Excellent .....	9	8	6	11

NA – not available

(--) – zero